

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE AND
RELATED AGENCIESSUBCOMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY

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March 15, 2007

The Honorable David Price
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
2362-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Price and Ranking Member Rogers:

I am writing to respectfully request your support for the following projects in the FY2008 Homeland Security Appropriations bill:

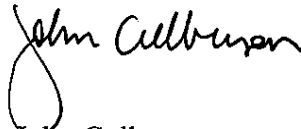
1. **Southwest Border Sheriff's Coalition:** \$100 million for sheriffs along the US-Mexico border to pay overtime, hire additional deputies, and purchase equipment. In FY06, the Science, Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce Subcommittee provided \$5 million for the Texas Border Sheriff Coalition to pay overtime, hire additional deputies, and purchase equipment. This Homeland Security request would extend the available resources from Brownsville to San Diego. There has been a sharp increase in violence and drug and human trafficking along the US-Mexico border and this request will provide the sheriffs with the resources they need to combat these problems. Local law enforcement along the border is severely undermanned, and since many of these counties are poor, they do not have the tax base to increase manpower. Additional federal assistance is necessary to protect the citizens of these counties and to stop human and drug traffic before it reaches the larger cities in our interior.

With the assistance of Chairman Sensenbrenner, I included authorization language in HR 4437, the Border Security Act that passed the House in December 2005 that would provide additional resources to southern border sheriffs. Section 607 of HR 4437 authorized \$100 million for sheriffs to hire and train additional deputies, pay overtime, and purchase equipment. I hope to work with the Subcommittee to include this language in the FY08 Homeland Security Appropriations bill. For your convenience, I have included a copy of Section 607 of HR 4437.

2. **Galveston Causeway Railroad Bridge Replacement:** \$10 million for construction of the replacement Galveston Causeway Railroad Bridge, a vital transportation link for industries along the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and the Texas Gulf Coast.

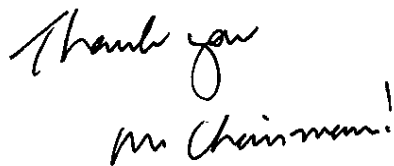
Thank you in advance for your consideration of my requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Culberson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

John Culberson
Member of Congress

JC:jm

A handwritten note in black ink that reads "Thank you Mr. Chairman!". The text is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.